



Andrea Fenc/ Freeman Staff

Habitat for Humanity of Waukesha County Executive Director Diane McGeen with District 4 Alderman Joe Pieper outside 906 Summit Ave. on Wednesday.

New hope for an old home

Habitat for Humanity to rehab vacant Waukesha home

By **Andrea Fenc**
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WAUKESHA — Habitat for Humanity of Waukesha County is taking on another project this summer, at 906 Summit Ave.

The home was left vacant in 2014 after the previous homeowner had to move due to a job transfer while her husband was simultaneously diagnosed with a brain tumor.

"Sometimes people fall into a bad spot in their life and something like this weighs so heavily on them," said Diane McGeen, execu-

tive director of Habitat Waukesha. "There were health issues and a move and it got overwhelming."

District 4 Alderman Joe Pieper mentioned the home to McGeen over lunch when she told Pieper that Habitat Waukesha was awarded funding from Community Development Block Grant to purchase a home for rehabilitation.

"This is a win-win. This takes a load off of the family that was struggling to maintain the home and it's a win for the neighborhood in that it will freshen up a distressed property," Pieper

said. "It's a win for them, it's a win for the neighborhood and it's a win for Habitat."

With the funding from CDBG, Habitat Waukesha was able to close on the home in a timely manner.

"I think it has good bones," McGeen said.

Built somewhere in the 1950's and 1960's, the house has three bedrooms and at least one bathroom. With two floors, it also has an exposed basement with a fireplace and an attached garage. Another garage sits on the property behind the home.

"These houses were built well," Pieper said.

McGeen said the floors in the bedrooms are salvageable and Habitat Waukesha does not plan on moving any walls.

"This will be beautiful when it's done," McGeen said.

Habitat Waukesha plans on repairing the holes in the garage roof today and the holes in the roof of the home on Tuesday and Wednesday. McGeen said the home will probably be finished in November.

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